I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Attorney Docket No.: 18563-001110

APR 2 4 2000 PE VO

BOX MISSING PARTS, Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231, on \_\_\_\_\_APRIL 19, 2000

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Karen A. Hallock

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

LOC X. PHAN et al.

Application No.: 09/454,278

Filed: December 3, 1999

For: ATTACHMENT DEVICES AND

METHODS FOR A DENTAL

**APPLIANCE** 

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

3732

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and

§1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of all references, except U.S. Patent No. 5,882,192, can be found in Application No. 09/250,962, filed February 16, 1999 (Attorney Docket No. 18563-000510). It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and



LOC X. PHAN et al. Application No.: 09/454,278

Page 2

no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that <u>no fee is required</u> for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig P. Wong

by Craig P. Wong, Reg. No. 45,231 for James M. Heslin, Reg. No. 29,541

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: 650-326-2400 Fax: 650-326-2422

JMH:bil:kh

PA 3065334 v1